

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 FAA-00
L-03 H-01 SS-15 NSC-05 /072 W
-----231201 010493 /13

P R 231121Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7246

INFO USINT BAGDAD

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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BRUSSELS FOR FAA, ROME FOR RCAA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, IZ, MT

SUBJECT: ALLEGED UNAUTHORIZED OVERFLIGHT OF IRAQI AIRSPACE.

REF: 1) ROME 2824, 2) BAGDAD 0359, 3) VALLETTA 0139 (NOTAL),

1. THE AIRCRAFT IN QUESTION, CONVAIR 880, REGISTRATION NO. N 84059, BELONGS TO ORIENT PACIFIC AIRWAYS, INC., A FLORIDA-BASED SUBSIDIARY OF SINGAPORE AIRCRAFT LEASING CO. PTE. LTD. OF SINGAPORE. IT IS LEASED TO AIR MALTA, FROM WHICH IT IS CHARTERED BY READING AND BATES TO MAKE CREW CHANGES ON OIL RIGS OPERATED IN MEDITERRANEAN AREA. THE AIRCRAFT IS ACTUALLY OPERATED BY SINGAPORE AIRCRAFT LEASING CO. PTE. LTD., WHOSE LOCAL GENERAL MANAGER IS P.M. CHAN.

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2. ACCORDING TO CHAN, WHO PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION, THE FIRST READING AND BATES FLIGHT FROM MALTA INVOLVED A CREW CHANGE TO TEHRAN, VIA ABADAN. IT WAS MADE BY CONVAIR 880, REGISTRATION NO. N 84059 WHICH DEPARTED LUQA AIRPORT, MALTA ABOUT 2300 ON DECEMBER 19. AN AFTN TO SOME FIVE DCA'S, INCLUDING IRAQ, HAD BEEN SENT BY THE SINGAPORE AIRCRAFT LEASING OFFICE NEARLY A WEEK

EARLIER. NO REPLY HAD BEEN RECEIVED FROM IRAQ, BUT SINCE DELAYS AND LAST MINUTE APPROVALS ARE NOT CONSIDERED UNUSUAL, THE AIRCRAFT DEPARTED WITHOUT IRAQI OVERFLIGHT AUTHORIZATION. THE AIRCRAFT WAS CHALLENGED OVER IRAQI AIRSPACE AND REQUIRED TO LAND AT BAGDAD. AT THIS TIME IT WAS DISCOVERED THAT THE FOUR LETTER CODE DESIGNATE FOR IRAQ HAD INADVERTENTLY BEEN OMITTED FROM THE AFTN. AFTER A FOUR HOUR DELAY IN BAGDAD, THE AIRCRAFT WAS PERMITTED TO CONTINUE ITS FLIGHT. SINCE THAT TIME THIS PARTICULAR CREW CHANGE FLIGHT HAS BEEN OVER ROUTE 19, SOUTH OF IRAQI AIRSPACE (APPARENTLY AT THE REQUEST OF IRAQI AUTHORITIES).

3. FOR ROME: A SECOND CONVAIR 880, REGISTRATION NO. N 48062, OWNED BY ORIENT PACIFIC AIRWAYS, IS PRESENTLY LOCATED AT MALTA. NEGOTIATIONS TO LEASE THIS SECOND AIRCRAFT TO AIR MALTA ARE IN PROGRESS, BUT HAVE NOT YET BEEN COMPLETED. CHAN CLAIMS THAT FULL INFORMATION REQUIRED ON THESE TWO AIRCRAFT, OR THE COMPANIES, CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE FAA OFFICE IN GUAM (MR. BROTBECK).

4. COMMENT: EMBASSY VALLETTA WOULD APPRECIATE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON SINGAPORE AIRCRAFT LEASING CO. PTE. LTD., ITS SUBSIDIARIES, OFFICIALS AND OPERATIONS. LAINGEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ALLEGATIONS, FLIGHT CLEARANCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977VALLET00224
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770062-0749
Format: TEL
From: VALLETTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770215/aaaaanro.tel
Line Count: 86
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: eb7ac1bf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Reference: 77 ROME 2824, 77 VALLETTA 139
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
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SAS ID: 3246900
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ALLEGED UNAUTHORIZED OVERFLIGHT OF IRAQI AIRSPACE.
TAGS: EAIR, IZ, MT, US, ORIENT PACIFIC AIRWAYS INC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/eb7ac1bf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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